

TWELVE DEAD, MANY HURT, IN BIG FIRE

**Woman and Child Among
Victims Trapped at
Incendiary blaze.**

**ONE MAN DIES BY
LEAP FROM WINDOW**

**Dwelling Swept by Flames
and Families Flee
Panicstricken.**

SEVERAL ARE BURNED

**Daring Rescues Made While Lives
Are Lost in Terror
of Flames.**

Twelve lives were lost in a fire in the double store and tenement house at 741 and 743 Eighth ave. early this morning.

One man was killed by jumping from a window. Three other men died in the Policlinic Hospital of their burns, and a woman also died in the hospital. An infant was found dead in the ruins. Two of the men were Joseph Enkin and Joseph Messer.

After the firemen put out the blaze and were washing down they found six more bodies.

It is believed the blaze was incendiary.

Battalion Chief Clarke says that he found indications that excelsior had been found near the coal and wood bins in the cellar.

The fire started on the third floor of the five story tenement house and cut off one of the staircases. All the occupants on that side of the building were penned in by the flames and had to take to the fire escapes.

More than a dozen persons were injured by falls and being burned.

It is believed that the tenants on the other side of the house escaped by the roof.

Charles Bauer was the first to reach the street. He succeeded in saving his wife and child by way of the fire escape. A moment later the ladders were jammed with the struggling and frightened mass of people who had just sprung from their beds.

The man killed by falling was trying to crawl from the burning building across an airshaft to an adjoining house on a ladder raised by the firemen. The ladder broke, he fell four stories, and was instantly killed.

Messer was carried out by firemen O'Connor and Moody. He was unconscious when taken to the ambulance. Enkin was also alive when dragged out, but died on the way to the hospital.

The woman was so badly burned about the face that she could not be identified.

On the ground floor of the building is a Woolworth 5 and 10 cent store.

OSBORN GETS FROST SCARE

**Chairman Feels Upstate Chill
and Delays Trip.**

William Church Osborn, chairman of the Democratic State Committee, is waiting for the frost to leave upstate. This he admitted last night when he explained why he had not started on his upstate trip to feel the sentiment of the rural communities on political affairs. He was to have begun his tour three days ago.

Of course, the frost applies to the roads only, but some think that Mr. Osborn believes some of the chilly feeling is due to some recent appointments made by Governor Glynn.

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ASTOR STILL IN DANGER

**Wedding Postponed Indefinitely,
Mrs. Huntington Says.**

The wedding of Miss Helen Dinsmore Huntington and Vincent Astor has been postponed indefinitely. The announcement was made last night at Staatsburg by Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Huntington.

Physicians are still constantly in attendance upon Mr. Astor at Hopeland House, the Huntington country home, and are taking every precaution to prevent complications. If these do not set in the young man's recovery should be rapid, they think. He will not go South, as reported.

Though he has passed the crisis Mr. Astor is still very ill, and Dr. Herridan, of Staatsburg, continues to spend every night at his patient's bedside.

The wedding had been set for April 30. According to the new arrangements, no invitations will be sent out until Mr. Astor has fully recovered his health.

CALL OUT FOR BACHELORS

**Husbands Wanted for 65
Widows Who Own Property.**

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.)
Syracuse, April 16.—President F. M. Parsons, of the village of Weedsport, has sounded a clarion call for bachelors to come to his village and marry sixty-five widows who own property there. The town has too many widows, he says, adding that he knows sixty-five of them who would marry again.

NEW TRIAL GRANTED TO MRS. WAKEFIELD

**Error in Evidence Saves
Middlebury, Conn., Widow
from Gallows.**

Hartford, Conn., April 16.—Mrs. Bessie J. Wakefield, of Middlebury, who at twenty-four faces death on the gallows, although a woman has not been hanged in this state since 1789, is to have a new trial for the murder of her husband.

The Supreme Court has found that part of the evidence given by Coroner Eli Mix at her trial should have been excluded. On this ground it finds error in the woman's conviction of murder in the first degree, ordering a complete court review of the case.

Two features have marked the Wakefield affair. One is the utter callousness of the murder and the other is the extraordinary efforts that have been made to save the woman from hanging.

In July, 1913, Mrs. Wakefield, daughter of a Middlebury couple and wife of a Bristol farmhand, reported the disappearance of her husband. His body was found in the woods in Cheshire County. He had been shot, strangled and stabbed to death. A cord was clumsily attached to the neck, to give the case an appearance of suicide.

The authorities questioned Mrs. Wakefield. She confessed that she and James Plew, a farmer with whom she was infatuated, had plotted Wakefield's death. She said Plew told her he choked Wakefield, dazed him with chloroform, led him into the woods and there killed him.

Mrs. Wakefield was locked up and her three small children turned over to her parents. She was put on trial and found guilty along with Plew, who was arrested immediately after her confession.

The idea of hanging the young mother of three children stirred thousands of citizens to protest. The Governor was importuned to stay the execution, but he declined. Hundreds of suffragists circulated petitions.

Mayor Frank J. Rice of New Haven was one of the petition signers. Several noted women, despairing of saving the mother, began plans for the care and education of her children.

Hope was revived last November, when Thomas F. Devine, Mrs. Wakefield's lawyer, appealed to the Supreme Court of Errors, naming nineteen reasons why his client should get a new trial.

The appeal acted as a stay of execution. Mrs. Wakefield was to have been hanged on March 4. Plew paid the penalty on the gallows, but the date for Mrs. Wakefield's death was cancelled by court order.

Wethersfield, Conn., April 16.—Mrs. Wakefield was awakened to-night and informed by the prison matron that she had been granted a new trial.

"Is it really true?" she asked. Being reassured, she cried: "Thank the Lord!" and then sobbed hysterically.

DR. DAVIS ADVOCATES WOMAN POLICE HEAD

**Thinks Street Cleaning Department
Is Within Her Sphere,
Naturally, Also.**

New York ought to have a woman Police Commissioner and a woman head of the Street Cleaning Department, according to Dr. Katharine B. Davis, Commissioner of Correction, who addressed a large suffrage meeting last night at the Academy of Music in Brooklyn.

"Women," she said, "have always done the spanking. They are the natural conservators of law and order in the home. They ought to carry this instinct into the street and keep the policemen toiling the line. I admit that women are not capable yet of being city Controller and deciding how the city's money shall be invested, or even of sitting on the Board of Estimate and deciding how it shall be spent."

DRESNER READY TO BARE DEAL FOR GUNMEN

**Prosecutor Expects to Learn
To-day Who Paid for
False Affidavit.**

**PLOT TO AID BECKER,
WHITMAN BELIEVES**

**Ex-Policeman and His Wife
Hope to Testify at His
Second Trial.**

DOLLAR JOHN EXPLAINS

**Tells District Attorney He Was
Sent Out of Town by
"Bridgie" Webber.**

Karl Dresner, the witness who confessed he perjured himself at the hearing on the motion for a new trial for the four gunmen before Justice Goff, was said to be on the verge yesterday of giving the District Attorney the name of the man who paid him and the amount he received for his false affidavit. The young bartender was brought over from the Toms and examined for two hours by Assistant District Attorney Groehl.

"I am in a position to say," said Mr. Groehl after the examination, "that Dresner will go further than he did to-day and give some important information in regard to the circumstances under which he made his original affidavit. I expect to learn tomorrow the amount he received for making it and the name of the man who paid him."

Dresner supplemented his confession of perjury in some less important details yesterday. The District Attorney is convinced that some one working in the interest of Charles Becker was instrumental in getting Dresner to make the affidavit in which he swore that he saw Rose, Vallon and Schepps in the gray car as it left the scene of the murder.

Dresner told Assistant District Attorney Groehl yesterday that he met and talked with Jacob Rosenberg, father of "Lefty Louie," in Judge Wahle's office on the day he made the affidavit. He said that he went home with Mr. Rosenberg after the hearing before Justice Goff. "Lefty's" father was an active worker in the defence of the gunmen, but there is no idea in the mind of the District Attorney that he knew anything about Dresner, until after some one sent him to see the gunmen's counsel.

"Dollar John" Sees Whitman.

"Dollar John" Langer, the gambler, one of the men whom Rosenthal mentioned who could corroborate some parts of the "police graft" story which Rosenthal intended to tell the District Attorney if he had not been killed, went to the District Attorney's office under subpoena yesterday. He was questioned by Mr. Groehl in regard to certain statements which had been credited to him, that the four gunmen had been "after him" prior to the Rosenthal murder. He told Mr. Groehl that there had been "rumors" to that effect, but that he had no personal knowledge that it was true.

He did admit, however, that the night before Rosenthal was shot "Bridgie" Webber asked him to go out of town so that he would be out of reach of a subpoena from the District Attorney's office. Langer followed "Bridgie's" advice, according to what he is said to have told the Assistant District Attorney, and went out of town and stayed away until after the first Becker trial. Langer may turn out to be an important witness for the prosecution at the second Becker trial.

Justice Seabury was formally designated yesterday to continue to sit at

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\$250 TO LADY NICOTINE

**Bishop's Kinswoman Leaves
Money for Good Cigars.**

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.)
Cincinnati, April 16.—Two hundred and fifty dollars "to purchase the best cigars he can" is a bequest to a Chicago man in the will of Mrs. Elizabeth C. Vincent, sister-in-law of Bishop Boyd Vincent of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the Southern Ohio Diocese, filed here to-day.

Elizabeth Prentiss, a grandniece, who lives in Montclair, N. J., is to have a diamond pin which was presented to Elizabeth Vincent by the staff of General Strong Vincent. She is requested to preserve it and never lend it to others nor allow it out of her possession so long as she lives. She falls heir to other jewelry and \$1,000.

Gum Ahead of Missions.

Saratoga, N. Y., April 16.—With the assertion that Americans spent \$9,000,000 more for chewing gum last year than all the Christian religious denominations gave for foreign missions, speakers before the Troy Methodist Conference here urged the clergy to-day to devise a systematic plan to increase all the benevolences.

It was asserted that in 10,000 Methodist churches in the United States the pastor received, including his house rent, less than \$1,000 a year salary.

HUERTA YIELDS TO THREAT OF FORCE AND WILSON CONSENTS TO RETURN HIS SALUTE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG AT TAMPICO

INTERNATIONAL AMENITIES.



AUTO KILLS GIRL AS MOTHER PREDICTED

**Daughter Victim of Speed
Mania, Says A. W. McCann,
the Father.**

Frances W. McCann, the twelve-year-old daughter of Alfred W. McCann, the pure food investigator and writer, was killed last night in front of her home, 49 St. Nicholas Terrace, by an auto delivery wagon. Only a week ago her mother, looking from the window one day as Frances stood beside her, prophesied that some day one of those machines would kill one of the children in that street.

The girl was playing with several other children of her own age just before dinner time. A ball was passing swiftly from one to another as the machine, owned by Bonwit, Teller & Co., 417 Fifth ave., began to glide down the grade on St. Nicholas Terrace at 120th street. Just as the wagon came to the children the ball was thrown toward Frances. It went over her head and she turned to run after it.

She ran practically under the wheels of the machine. The chauffeur, William Lascher, of 126 West 143d st., who a few seconds before had expected to clear the children without difficulty, stopped the car as soon as possible, but the little girl had been killed instantly. Patrolman Burns called Dr. Peterson from Knickerbocker Hospital, but there was nothing the doctor could do.

Mrs. McCann rushed out into the street, to find that her child had been taken to a drug store. As she ran breathless into the store she knew how terrible the accident had been. The patrol wagon came to take the body to the station to await the action of the coroner.

Just as the wagon was starting for the station Mr. McCann came up the street.

The chauffeur was later held in \$2,500 bail by Coroner Healy for hearing this morning.

"I don't blame you, Lascher!" he shouted Mr. McCann at the police station. "All the evidence shows that you were blameless and could not be held responsible. You're not anxious to kill little children, but you're the victim of circumstances. You've got to make your deliveries and make speed to do it. My little girl has been sacrificed to the speed mania that has clutched this city by the throat."

TRAIN CUTS 'WAR' MESSAGE

**Wireless on Car Interferes
with Words to Fleet.**

A passenger train, speeding through the Jersey meadows, for a while cut off the Atlantic fleet from all official communication yesterday. The wireless telephone apparatus of the Lackawanna, sending a message to a limited ten miles away, blurred the wireless waves of the government operators.

The Lackawanna limited, equipped with its new wireless telephone, left the Hoboken station yesterday forenoon for a test trip. Soon after the train had gone the operator at Hoboken tuned up the instruments.

He was interrupted by a message from the Brooklyn navy yard, informing him that he was interfering with official messages to the fleet. The railroad's experiment was discontinued.

\$4,000 HAUL BY ROBBERS

**Loot Apartment, but Overlook
\$400 and Gems.**

Burglars broke into a second floor apartment at 480 Park ave. last night and got away with more than \$4,000 worth of jewelry, plate and clothing.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Ives returned to their home from a visit to friends about 10:30 o'clock and found everything turned upside down. In their hurry the burglars overlooked a pocketbook containing \$400 in cash and some of Mrs. Ives's most valuable pieces of jewelry.

The apartment house adjoins the Board of Education building.

Mrs. Ives became hysterical, and her husband asked the policemen to remain on guard all night. On finding they were unable to do that, he took his wife to a hotel.

CITY PRESENTS FIRE BILL

**Adamson Wants Cemetery to
Pay for Extinguishing Flames.**

The first suit of its kind ever brought in this city was filed by Fire Commissioner Adamson yesterday against the Greenwood Cemetery Corporation to recover \$1,500, the cost to the city in extinguishing a fire at 212 West 99th st. The corporation failed to obey an order of former Commissioner Johnson to install automatic fire extinguishers on its property.

Commissioner Adamson said the fire attained serious proportions because there were no extinguishers. He declared that the Greenwood Cemetery Corporation was guilty of "wilful and culpable negligence." The fire occurred on January 31, and spread to adjoining buildings. It was put out with difficulty, and several firemen were injured.

FLEET READY FOR ANYTHING, IS WORD

**Admiral Badger's Message
Told to Navy League by
Secretary Daniels.**

"We do not know what we will be called upon to do, but we are ready to do it," were the last words which Rear Admiral Charles J. Badger, commander of the Atlantic fleet, spoke to Secretary Daniels of the Navy Department before the fleet sailed for Mexico.

Rear Admiral Badger's message was made known last night by Mr. Daniels at the ninth annual dinner of the Navy League at the Waldorf. It deserved to rank, the Secretary of the Navy said, with the famous sayings of Lawrence, John Paul Jones, and Dewey at Manila.

In his address to the four hundred diners, many of them active or retired naval officers, Secretary Daniels answered his critics who had said he sought to destroy the discipline of the navy.

"I want to declare now that no man believes more in discipline than I do; that no man is more fully convinced of the absolute necessity in all military service of instant and implicit obedience to superior; that no Secretary of the Navy will deal with a firmer hand with all cases of insubordination and insubordination on the part of any man in the navy."

Daniels Explains His Policy.

"It has been claimed that my policy of educating the seaman is an entering wedge to breaking down his respect for his superior. But I hold that a man who obeys orders because he understands why he should obey, not merely because of fear of consequences if he does not, makes a better sailor and a better officer."

Throughout the Secretary's address the members of the Navy League listened eagerly for a reference to his recent order depriving officers on battleships of liquor.

"I have recently issued an order abolishing the wine mess," he said. "With singular lack of logic critics who see fit to represent me as a foe to discipline on the one hand twist this into a case of discipline run mad on the other. Far greater questions than that of discipline lie back of this. There is no body of more temperate, clear-headed men in the world than our officers, but let me bring the question home in another form."

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**Practice of Nations Said
to Require Gun for
Gun in Reply.**

**BRYAN JUBILANT
OVER SETTLEMENT**

**Great Fleet of Warships
Rushed to Sea, However,
Not Turned Back.**

**ARMY HAS PLANS
TO INVADE MEXICO**

**Reprimand for O'Shaughnessy
Too Cordial with Huerta
Surprises Diplomats.**

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, April 16.—The President and his Secretary of State have received from Nelson O'Shaughnessy, the American chargé d'affaires in Mexico City, reports which they think mean that Victoriano Huerta has succumbed and that the salute of twenty-one guns to the American flag which Rear Admiral Mayo demanded of the Federal authorities at Tampico seven days ago will be fired.

Secretary Bryan jubilantly informed diplomatic representatives of foreign governments to-day that the situation had been adjusted and there would be no war. The President this afternoon was not quite so explicit or confident. He said simply that the situation was "encouraging." He obviously thought, however, that Huerta intended to fire the salute.

The British and French, and possibly the German, diplomatic representatives in Mexico City used their good offices in getting Huerta to comply with the American demands. Just how they entered upon the scene, however, whether by Huerta's request or otherwise, is not known.

It is the intention of the administration to return Huerta's salute as soon as it has been fired. The President has the precedents in the case looked up and found that it was the custom for an offended nation to return a salute given in reparation of a wrong. To visitors this afternoon the President said it was just like a man shaking the hand of, or lifting his hat to, a man who had affronted him, but who immediately apologized.

Not Recognition of Huerta.

The point that firing a salute of twenty-one guns to Huerta's own saluting gunners would involve a recognition of Huerta was rejected by high administration officials. It was said that it would involve nothing of the sort, and would be only a salute to the Mexican nation, as distinguished from the government of Huerta. There is already evident, however, a show of opposition at the Capitol, where certain members of Congress are violently opposed to returning Huerta's salute. To do so, they think, would minimize the effect of Huerta's repudiation.

The decision of the administration that precedent requires that the United States return the salute of Huerta is reflected in the following statement issued by the Navy Department to-night:

"If a national salute is fired as an 'amende honorable' it is invariably returned; gun for gun, by a vessel of war of the power whose flag has thus been saluted. This is in accordance with international comity, and there are many precedents to establish the custom."

"In Admiral Mayo's written communication to the Mexican General Zaragoza at Tampico on April 9 was the original demand made for a salute to the flag. In this communication General Zaragoza was informed by Admiral Mayo that the salute would be returned by the Dolphin."

Navy's Regulations.

It is noteworthy that the regulations of the United States Navy in providing for salutes and the returning of salutes specifically refer to foreign nations "the government of which is recognized by the United States," and further provide that no salute shall be fired in honor of any nation or of any official of any nation not formally recognized by the government of the United States."

What will be done with the great fleet which is steaming toward Mexico is an unanswered question. It may be that the fleet's progress will be momentarily halted if Huerta speedily fires his salute, but that the ships will remain within striking distance of Mexico seems certain. The President is anxious that the intolerable Mexican situation shall be brought to an end, and if Huerta fires his salute the President may follow up this diplomatic victory by another effort to bring about the elimination of Huerta. This is the goal toward which the President is working, and the Tampico incident provides a starting point from which he can work. Although there is a possibility that the fleet will be turned in at Pensacola, it is generally believed that it will go on to Tampico whether Huerta succumbs to present demands or not.

There is conflicting information as to